

1 HJR135
2 167938-2
3 By Representatives Gaston, Buskey, Bracy, Williams (JW),
4 Davis, McMillan, Drummond, Clarke, Wilcox, Baker, Shiver,
5 Faust and Sessions
6 RFD: Rules
7 First Read: 21-APR-15

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA ON ITS
4 REDESIGNATION AS A FOUR-YEAR NATIONAL CENTER OF ACADEMIC
5 EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION ASSURANCE EDUCATION AND CYBER
6 DEFENSE.

7
8 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has been
9 redesignated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in
10 Information Assurance Education and Cyber Defense, and the
11 attainment of this prestigious status reflects the high
12 quality of its educational offerings in that field; and

13 WHEREAS, the National Center of Academic Excellence
14 program was established by the National Security Agency and
15 the Department of Homeland Security, with the support of the
16 National Science Foundation and it is intended to promote
17 higher education and research related to safeguarding the
18 nation's information infrastructure; and

19 WHEREAS, to be selected as a Center of Academic
20 Excellence, a college or university must establish a strong
21 information assurance program and design its security courses
22 in accordance with training standards developed by the
23 National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland
24 Security; and

1 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has placed
2 a special emphasis on information assurance and has created a
3 Center for Forensics, Information Technology and Security in
4 2009 which was established as an organization to promote the
5 advancement of knowledge related to the study and application
6 of digital forensics, information technology security, and
7 information assurance; and

8 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has offered
9 a specialization in networking security since the fall of 1998
10 as part of its undergraduate degree program in information
11 technology; students who complete this specialization are
12 trained to assure the integrity and security of information
13 and organizations' infrastructure; and

14 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has offered
15 a specialization in digital forensics since the fall of 1998
16 as part of its undergraduate degree program in information
17 technology; students who complete this specialization are
18 trained in measures to prevent the loss, unauthorized
19 modification, and destruction of data, and receive diverse
20 training that draws on skills in computer science, information
21 technology, and criminology; and

22 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has offered
23 a graduate program specialization in information assurance
24 since fall of 2009 with advanced course work in digital
25 forensics analysis, operating systems security, and network

1 security management as well as graduate research in these
2 areas; and

3 WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama has offered
4 a new cyber assurance undergraduate degree program since fall
5 of 2014 with a systems-level approach to computer security,
6 combining theoretical and applied security research; and

7 WHEREAS, covering the 2014 through 2021 school
8 years, the National Center of Academic Excellence designation
9 provides recognition of the University of South Alabama's
10 leadership in the study of cyber security, and the
11 institution's efforts to prepare well-trained professionals to
12 work in this crucial discipline is of great benefit to the
13 State of Alabama, and the nation; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize the
16 University of South Alabama on its redesignation as a
17 four-year National Center of Academic Excellence in
18 Information Assurance Education and Cyber Defense, and extend
19 to all those associated with the program sincere best wishes
20 for continued success.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an official copy of
22 this resolution be prepared for the university as an
23 expression of high regard by the Legislature.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 23-APR-15.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

30-APR-15

Adopted